

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1982-1983

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20 January 1983

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### MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr PURVIS, Mr PRICE, Mr KEY, Mrs EWING, Mr BEAZLEY,  
Mr SIMPSON, Mrs PHLIX, Mr BALFOUR, Mr WELSH, Mr SEELER,  
Mrs ROBERTS, Mrs SQUARCIALUPI, Mr KYRKOS, Mrs QUIN,  
Mr GEROKOSTOPOULOS, Mr PAPAEFSTRATIOU, Mr TURNER, Mr DE GOEDE,  
Mr ROGALLA, Mrs PANTAZI, Mr EISMA, Mr PAPANTONIOU, Mr VERONESI,  
Mr BONACCINI and Mr TYRRELL

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on Community prisons and prisoners - conditions and rehabilitation  
procedures during and after imprisonment

The European Parliament,

- A. conscious of the social and financial cost of crime in the European Community,
  - B. considering that present methods of deterrents and rehabilitation are largely ineffective in preventing crime and especially return to crime by prisoners after release,
  - C. convinced that this situation could be improved by a review of sentencing, custodial and rehabilitation principles and methods,
  - D. considering the free movement of Community citizens and the increasing likelihood of their being sentenced, imprisoned and rehabilitated in Member States other than that of origin,
  - E. convinced that the Community could make a useful contribution by exchange of information and experience and by certain coordinated action,
  - F. considering the role of the EEC Social Fund in training and retraining people, not excluding prisoners, for employment,
1. Urges the Council of Ministers of Justice to meet and agree a concerted position regarding the various conventions of the Council of Europe which have not yet been ratified by all Member States and to pursue ratification throughout the European Community of those on which they do agree;

2. Urges Member States in particular to discuss standards and possible initiatives regarding:-

- a) prison conditions;
- b) training facilities;
- c) location of custody;
- d) sentencing;
- e) provision of accommodation and counselling facilities during the difficult transition from prison to civilian life;
- f) the position of prisoners' families;

3. Calls on the Commission to make a study of:-

- a) the adequacy and effectiveness of present systems in Member States of training offenders before and after release from custody with suggestions for Community action,
- b) comparisons between Community prison and aftercare systems as to their success in avoiding recidivism and reintroducing ex-offenders to civilian life and to employment in particular,
- c) whether the Social Fund needs to be more effectively utilised in dealing with the problem of offenders and ex-offenders,
- d) possible roles for the Community in coordinating Member State action, promoting experimental pilot projects and disseminating information,
- e) NGOs in the Community concerned with offenders and released offenders with the objective of encouraging better coordination and exchange of experience, perhaps under the aegis of a Community-wide umbrella organisation;

4. Calls on associations representing prison administrators in the Member States to set up an EEC-wide association so that the best experience can be more quickly spread throughout the Community;
5. Asks its President to forward this motion for resolution to the Commission, Council of Ministers and President of the Council of Europe.